

and the contact surface envisages that the claw fingers of at least one claw of the wiper blade are offset in relation to the contact surface in the longitudinal direction of the bow toward the pivot of the claw bow in such a way that the outer edges of the claw fingers are located within an area which extends from inclusive of half the maximum length of the contact surface as far and into the distance between the inner edge of the contact surface and the pivot of the claw bow.

In the claims:

1. (Amended) A wiper blade for cleaning a windshield of a vehicle, ^{said blade having} (with) a frame, and with at least two claws to hold and guide a rubber-like wiper element, where the frame has at least one claw bow with a claw on at least one end of the bow and the claw bow can be connected at a distance (D) from the claw by means of a pivot to one of a wiper arm and to an additional bow on the frame, where the claw has, at the claw base, a bearing surface which presses on the upper side of the wiper element when (the windshield wiper) is operating, which surface is delimited in the longitudinal direction of the frame by an outer edge and an inner edge and has a maximum length (L), and where two claw sidewalls which turn into claw fingers extend from the claw base toward the windshield to be wiped running along the opposite longitudinal sides of the wiper element and where the claw fingers capture (the rear body forming ^{part}) of the wiper element from one of below and engage longitudinal side grooves in the rear body, where the claw fingers are bounded in the longitudinal direction of the bow and are each delimited by an outer edge and an inner edge, characterized in that the claw fingers of at least one claw on the windshield wiper are offset in the longitudinal direction in relation to (the contact ^{bearing} surface) toward the pivot of the claw bow in such a way that the outer edges of the claw feet are located within an area which extends from inclusive of half of the maximum length (L) of the contact surface as far as the distance between the inner edge of the contact surface and the pivot of the claw bow.

2. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1, where between the inner edge of the contact surface and the outer edges of the claw fingers a gap d is present with d equal to ^{greater} or less than zero.

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3. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1, where, in a side view of the wiper blade, the two claw fingers are aligned with each other.

4. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1 where the claw finger is offset in the longitudinal direction in relation to the claw finger.

5. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 4, where the wiper element is curved in plan view and where (the distance $d1$) of one claw finger on the side which lies on the outside of the wiper element curvature is less than (the distance $d2$) on the other claw side which lies on the inside of the wiper element curvature.

6. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 5, where the distances $d1$ and $d2$ are dependent on the degree of curvature of the wiper element in plan view.

7. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1 where one of the side of the claw base facing the wiper element is curved in relation to the claw fingers and the claw fingers have a convex curve in relation to the claw base.

8. (Amended) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1, where at least one claw on the claw bow is a windshield wiper end claw.

Add the following new claims:

9. (New) The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1 wherein a side view of the wiper blade, the distance in the case of the two claw fingers is the same.

10. (New) The wiper bade in accordance with 1, where the distance d_1 of one claw finger is different from the distance d_2 of the other claw fingers.
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